Serial No.: 09/820,854

## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-8. (Canceled)

 (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with claim [[8]] 11, further comprising a step of:

verifying that said sample solution has become stable based on the fact that said absolute value of said amount of change in said output signal is maintained at or less than a predetermined value for a predetermined duration or longer, after the step (b) and before the step (c).

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with claim 8, A method for controlling a measurement system comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting at least one selected from the group consisting of a transmitted light component, a scattered light component and a reflected light component of a light which is traversed by a rising surface of a sample solution being injected into a sample cell, and outputting an output signal corresponding to the detection;

(b) verifying that a predetermined amount of said sample solution is held in said sample cell based on a change in the output signal; and then

(c) measuring an optical characteristic of the sample solution,

wherein step (b) is performed based on the rate at which the output signal changes over time, and wherein said light in the step (a) is also used for measuring said optical characteristic in the step (c).

- 12. (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with claim 8; A method for controlling a measurement system comprising the steps of:
- (a) detecting at least one selected from the group consisting of a transmitted light component, a scattered light component and a reflected light component of a light which is traversed by a rising surface of a sample solution being injected into a sample cell, and outputting an output signal corresponding to the detection;
- (b) verifying that a predetermined amount of said sample solution is held in said sample cell based on a change in the output signal; and then
  - (c) measuring an optical characteristic of the sample solution,
- wherein step (b) is performed based on the rate at which the output signal changes over time, and

wherein said sample solution is transfused from said sample cell to another sample cell after the step (b), and the rest of the steps are conducted thereafter.

- 13. (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with claim 8, A method for controlling a measurement system comprising the steps of:
- (a) detecting at least one selected from the group consisting of a transmitted light component, a scattered light component and a reflected light component of a light which is

Serial No.: 09/820,854

traversed by a rising surface of a sample solution being injected into a sample cell, and outputting an output signal corresponding to the detection;

- (b) verifying that a predetermined amount of said sample solution is held in said sample cell based on a change in the output signal; and then
  - (c) measuring an optical characteristic of the sample solution,

wherein step (b) is performed based on the rate at which the output signal changes over time, and

wherein the step (c) is a step of detecting a light, which has been transmitted through said sample solution and an analyzer, by a photosensor to measure an angle of rotation of said sample solution, using an output signal from said photosensor as a transmitted light component.

- 14. (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with claim [[8]] 11, further comprising the steps of:
  - (d) discharging said sample solution from said sample cell after the step (c); and then
  - (e) washing said sample cell.
- 15. (Original) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with claim 14, wherein the steps (d) and (e) are conducted simultaneously by replacing said sample solution in said sample cell with a cleaning solution.
- 16. (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with claim [[8]] 11, wherein said sample solution is a urine, the steps (a) to (c) are conducted after said sample cell installed in a position closed to a side wall of a toilet bowl is moved into a hollow space of said toilet bowl, and the rest of the steps are conducted after said

Serial No.: 09/820,854

sample cell is restored to the initial position.

17. (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in

accordance with claim [[8]]  $\underline{11}$ , wherein said sample solution is a urine, the steps (a) and (b) are

conducted after said sample cell installed in a position closed to a side wall of a toilet bowl is

moved into a hollow space of said toilet bowl, and the rest of the steps are conducted after said

sample cell is restored to the initial position.

18. (Original) The method for controlling a measurement system in accordance with

claim 16, wherein a urine and/or a cleaning solution is discharged into a toilet bowl.

19-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) The method for controlling a measurement system in

accordance with claim [[8]] 11, wherein step (b) is a step of verifying that said predetermined

amount of said sample solution is held in said sample cell based on the fact that an absolute value

of an amount of change in said output signal over time is maintained at or less than a first

predetermined value for a first predetermined duration or longer.

31. (Canceled)

5